Attorney's Docket No. 5405-232DV

/633 PATENT #12

APR 0 1 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re: Amalfitano et al.

Serial No.: 09/972,794

Filed: October 5, 2001

DELETED ADENOVIRUS VECTORS AND METHODS OF MAKING For:

AND ADMINISTERING THE SAME

Date: March 26, 2003

Examiner: D. Nguyen

Group: 1633

Box Non-Fee Amendment **Commissioner for Patents** Washington, DC 20231

Response to Restriction Requirement

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated February 26, 2003, it is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Applicants elect the claims of Group II (Claims 1-5, 12-16, 25-43, 59, 67-71, 75-86, 93-98, 105-108, 110-116, 132-133, 146-148, 207-209, and 213-222; reciting 100K region deletions) with traverse on the basis that it would not be an undue burden to examine the claims of Groups I-XII concurrently. In particular, Applicants submit that it would not be an undue burden to examine the claims of Groups II, VII, X and XI concurrently, which all recite deletions in the 100K region.

As discussed with the Examiner by telephone, if the Examiner maintains the present Restriction among the claims, it is respectfully requested that the claims of Group VII, X and XI be examined if the linking claims (Claims 1(b), 17, 105(a) and 207) are found to be free of the art.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for substantive examination, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Magri

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Customer No.

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment; Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on March 26, 2003.